
Blaine House Conference on
Maine's Natural Resource-based
Industry: *Charting a New Course*

November 17, 2003

Conference Report

*With recommendations to
Governor John E. Baldacci*

Submitted by the Conference Planning Committee
Richard Barringer and Richard Davies, Co-chairs

February 2004

Acknowledgements

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This report was compiled and edited by:

Maine State Planning Office

38 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

(207) 287-3261

www.maine.gov/spo

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Conference Planning Committee

Richard Barringer, Co-chair,
*Professor, Muskie School of Public Service,
USM*

Spencer Apollonio
*Former Commissioner, Dept of Marine
Resources*

Edward Bradley
Maritime Attorney

Elizabeth Butler
Pierce Atwood

Jack Cashman
*Commissioner, Dept of Economic and
Community Development*

Charlie Colgan
*Professor, Muskie School of Public Service,
USM*

Martha Freeman
Director, State Planning Office

Dawn Gallagher
Commissioner, Maine DEP

Lloyd Irland
President, The Irland Group

David Keeley
State Planner, State Planning Office

Laurie Lachance
State Economist, State Planning Office

George Lapointe
Commissioner, Dept of Marine Resources

Richard Davies, Co-chair
Senior Policy Advisor, Governor Office

Dann Lewis
Director, Office of Tourism, DECD

Roland D. Martin
*Commissioner, Dept of Inland Fisheries and
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Patrick McGowan
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Don Perkins
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Stewart Smith
*Professor, Sustainable Agriculture Policy,
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Robert Spear
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Ned Porter, Deputy Commissioner
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Craig Tenbroeck, Director of Policy
*Development, Dept of Environmental
Protection*

Karin Tilberg, Deputy Commissioner
Dept of Conservation

Staff

Jody Harris, State Planning Office

Conference Organization

Susan MacPherson, Great Gatherings LLC

The Conference Planning Committee is especially grateful to Jody Harris and Susan MacPherson. Their professionalism, energy, and dedication are in large measure responsible for the success of the conference.

Award Winners

We would like to congratulate the following organizations and individuals who were awarded the 2003 Governor's Award for Outstanding Accomplishments in Maine's Natural Resource-Based Industries. The individuals and organizations receiving recognition represent the innovation, entrepreneurial spirit, and stewardship Maine seeks in its natural resource-based industries. These industries are not only the heart and soul of Maine; they define our landscape, our heritage, and our way of life.

Yvette Alexander, Harpswell

A tireless, hardworking supporter of Maine's groundfishing community

Naturally Potatoes, Mars Hill

An innovative potato processing facility

The Maine Aquaculture Innovation Center, Orono

A catalyst for developing aquaculture in Maine

The Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center, Orono

Pioneers of new applications for our wood resources

The Maine Sea Kayak Guides and Instructors Association, Bangor

Making sea kayaking safe and compatible with coastal environments

Convening 750 people for productive discussions on the pressing matters confronting Maine's resource-based industries was a challenging task, in itself. Professor Jack Kartez of the Muskie School at USM provided support to the Planning Committee on design of this process for both the March Summit and November Conference. The members of the Planning Committee wish to thank Professor Kartez and the following individuals from Maine state offices, colleges and universities, and private practices who generously provided assistance as facilitators and recorders at these sessions. A number of individuals also attended the conference as resource people, to share their expertise as an aid to the discussions; we thank them, as well.

Facilitators

Kathryn Ainsworth, *Governor's Office*

Malcolm Burson, *Maine DEP*

Jim Connors, *State Planning Office*

Hugh Coxe, *New England Planning Concepts*

John Del Vecchio, *State Planning Office*

Alec Giffen, *Maine Forest Service*

J. Harper, *ACE Service Center*

Mary Ann Hayes, *State Planning Office*

Joan Jones, *Maine DEP*

Jack Kartez, *Muskie School of Public Service, USM*

David Keeley, *State Planning Office*

Anna Kent, *Muskie School of Public Service, USM*

Ralph Knoll, *Dept of Conservation*

Kathleen Leyden, *State Planning Office*

Don Mansius, *Maine Forest Service*

Robert Marvinney, *Dept of Conservation*

Noel Musson, *Muskie School of Public Service*

Beth Nagusky, *Governor's Office of Energy Independence and Security*

Valerie Oswald, *State Bureau Human Resources*

Cathy Richardson, *Maine DEP*

Lissa Robinson, *Muskie School of Public Service, USM*

David Soucy, *Dept of Conservation*

Craig TenBroeck, *Maine DEP*

Recorders

Caroline Allam, *Greater Portland Council of Governments*

Jessica Bennett, *University of Maine*

Karen Bennett, *Colby College*

Joyce Benson, *State Planning Office*

Jim Blanck, *Maine Forest Service*

Lisa Bragg, *University of Maine*

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Randa Capponi, *Colby College*

Cecilia Clavet, *University of Maine*

Kelly Cobourn, *University of Maine*

Tyler Edgar, *Colby College*

Jeremy Gabrielson, *Muskie School of Public Service, USM*

Stephanie Glasser, *Colby College*

Jim Good, *Pierce Atwood*

Jamie Hannon, *University of Maine*

Nels Leaders, *Colby College*

Sandy Maxey, *Muskie School, USM*

Mort Moesswilde, *Maine Forest Service*

Allison Reed, *University of Maine*

Gale Ross, *Dept of Conservation*

Andrea Smith, *Governor's Office*

Ian Spencer, *University of Maine*

Mary Jane West, *State Planning Office*

Resource Experts

Mike Allen, *Maine Revenue Services*

Kevin Boyle, *University of Maine*

Tom Broussard, *Dept of Labor*

Hsiang-tai Cheng, *University of Maine*

Gary Crocker, *Community College System*

Tim Dalton, *University of Maine*

Brian Dancause, *Dept of Economic and Community Development*

Beth Della Valle, *State Planning Office*

Shelley Doak, *Dept of Agriculture*

Rob Elder, *Dept of Transportation*

David Field, *University of Maine*

Martha Freeman, *State Planning Office*

Todd Gabe, *University of Maine*

Stephanie Gilbert, *Dept of Agriculture*

John Harker, *Dept of Agriculture*

Mary Ellen, Johnston, *Dept of Agriculture*

James Leiby, *University of Maine*

Dann Lewis, *Dept of Economic and Community Development*

John Massaua, *Maine Small Business Development Center*

James McConnon, Jr. *University of Maine*

Linda Mercer, *Dept of Marine Resources*

William Peabody, *Dept of Labor*

Larry Record, *Maine Revenue Services*

Judy Ryan, *University of Maine System*

Stew Smith, *University of Maine*

Chris Spruce, *Sunrise City Economic Council*

Mario Teisl, *University of Maine*

Industry Spokespersons

Paul Anderson, *Maine Sea Grant, UMO*

Joseph Lallande, *Maine Potato Growers, Inc.*

Bruce McLean, *Millinocket Area Growth and Investment Council*

Carolann Ouellette, *Moose Point Tavern*

Pat White, *Maine Lobsterman's Association*

Others

Erik Anderson, *Dept of Conservation*

Donna Bradstreet, *State Planning Office*

Rhonda Cartlidge, *State Planning Office*

Jack Kartez, *Muskie School of Public Service, USM*

Edna Cayford, *State Planning Office*

Ron Dyer, *Maine DEP*

Aline Lachance, *State Planning Office*

Lorraine Lessard, *State Planning Office*

Greg Nadeau, *Dept of Transportation*

Jeff Sosnaud, *Dept of Economic and Community Development*

Alan Stearns, *Senior Policy Advisor, Governor's Office*

Lee Umphrey, *Director of Communications, Governor's Office*